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NEWS

Biotechnology

India Approves Field Trials of GM Crops, Clearing Way for Testing of 200 Varieties

Indian environment minister M. Veerappa Moily said Feb. 27 that his ministry has approved confined field trials of genetically modified crops, clearing the way for some 200 transgenic crops to be tested in India. ...

Climate Change

'Chances Growing' for Carbon Tax in China As Carbon Trading Is Tested, Researcher Says

As China tests markets for trading carbon emissions, "chances are growing that we are going to see" a carbon tax instead, the executive director of a U.S.-China research program at Harvard University said Feb. 28....

Climate Change

Entrepreneur Calls on Business to Push For Action on Climate Change, Energy

The nation's business community is the key to spurring action in Washington on climate change and clean energy policies, retired hedge fund manager and environmental

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activist Tom Steyer told a conference....

Climate Change

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Feb. 28 released two technical documents to aid nations in their required reporting of greenhouse gas emissions, the first on how to account for wetlands and the second outlining best practices...

Climate Change

The Environmental Protection Agency will not overstep the authority delegated to it by Congress when it pursues carbon dioxide emissions standards, agency Administrator Gina McCarthy said during a Feb. 28 trip to North Dakota....

Congress

The House will consider legislation the week of March 3 that would limit the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to complete greenhouse gas emission regulations for power plants, House Majority Leader Rep. Eric Cantor (R-Va.)...

Drilling

A Colorado judge has approved the results of a November 2013 vote approving a five-year ban (Question 300) on hydraulic fracturing in Broomfield, Colo. (Cave v. Broomfield, Colo. Dist. Ct., No. 2013CV30313, 2/27/13).
...

Drinking Water

Data on two fluorinated chemicals found in some drinking water supplies are suggestive of carcinogenicity in humans, according to two Environmental Protection Agency draft documents announced in a Feb. 28 Federal Register notice (79 Fed....

Drinking Water

The Environmental Protection Agency would be directed to consider rural communities as well as communities with fewer than 3,000 drinking water connections as part of the agency's pilot grant program for alternative sources

of water....

Emissions Trading

European Union carbon emissions permits had their biggest monthly gain in a year after the bloc cut the 2014 supply by about one-fifth to help deal with a glut....

Energy

New energy efficiency requirements for refrigerators, freezers and other commercial refrigeration equipment used in supermarkets and restaurants announced by the Energy Department Feb. 28 will save businesses \$11.7 billion over 30 years....

Energy

Sen. John Hoeven (R-N.D.) told Bloomberg BNA in an on-camera interview Feb. 27 that President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry have said multiple times that Obama will make the final decision about whether to approve the Keystone XL pipeline....

Energy

Legislation that aims to increase the energy efficiency of commercial buildings leased to tenants is scheduled to be considered on the House floor the week of March 3, according to an e-mail from one of the bill's sponsors obtained by Bloomberg...

Energy

Sen. Barbara Boxer (D) and two Southern California members of the House of Representatives have asked Interior Secretary Sally Jewell to include areas around the Salton Sea in a conservation plan being drafted to ease development of renewable...

Great Lakes

Federal and state governments in the U.S. and Canada need to take immediate steps to reduce nutrient pollution to Lake Erie, which has seen a decline in water quality over the past decade, according to a report from the International Joint Commission....

Insurance

A policy holder that intentionally discharged a pollutant can't invoke the "sudden and accidental" exception to a pollution exclusion even if the discharge was legal and it was unaware of the pollutant potential of the substance...

Mining

The Environmental Protection Agency has begun exploring options for protecting the sockeye salmon fishery of Bristol Bay, Alaska, from the potential impacts of the proposed Pebble Mine, a large open-pit copper and gold mine, the EPA said...

Regulatory Policy

The House Feb. 28 passed by a vote of 234-176 the Unfunded Mandates Information and Transparency Act (H.R. 899) to increase regulatory analyses, despite a veto threat by President Obama....

Toxic Substances

Chemical manufacturers and environmental health organizations are sharply split in their early reactions to draft legislation that would update the Toxic Substances Control Act, with manufacturers generally supportive and environmental...

Toxic Substances

A European Union regulation that modifies the prior informed consent (PIC) rules for the export of the most hazardous chemicals takes effect March 1 in the 28-country bloc....

Toxic Substances

West Virginia's political leaders want the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to step up research into the health effects of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (MCHM), which recently fouled drinking water for 300,000 state residents....

Water Pollution

A federal court's decision in favor of a citizen's petition could transform the Environmental Protection Agency's discretionary authority under the Clean Water Act into a mandatory duty, the EPA said in a brief filed in the U.S....

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Water Pollution

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